

said ring is connected to said brackets by at least two screws, which pass through said brackets and are engaged in said ring.

Claim 2

Cancel Claim 2.

Claim 3

Line 1, after "claim" delete "1" and insert -6-.

Claim 4

Line 1, after "claim" delete "1" and insert -6-.

Claim 5

Line 1, after "claim" delete "1" and insert -6-

Remarks

The Office action, cited references, specification, and claims have been carefully reviewed in light of the Office action.

Claims 1 and 2 have been cancelled and rewritten as new Claim 6 in accordance with the examiner's suggestion. Claims 3, 4 and 5 have been amended to make them dependent on new Claim 6. No new matter has been added. A marked up version of the Claims is attached hereto.

Before taking up the Claims in detail attention will be briefly given to the references relied upon by the examiner.

The examiner rejected Claims 1, 3-5 as obvious 35 USC Section 103 over Plunkett et al. No. 4,636,669 in view of Corcoran, Jr. et al. No. 5,955,955.

The Plunkett et al. patent is directed to a termination assembly for electric fans which includes an electric motor housing having a peripheral frame member, a central motor mounting member and strut members connecting and supporting the frame member and motor mounting member. The peripheral frame member defines a receptacle having an open mouth for receiving a terminal block assembly in a sliding manner. The receptacle also defines a lateral aperture for access to the terminal block. At least one of the strut members defines a longitudinal channel communicating at one end with the open mouth and at its other end with means for access to an electric motor when mounted on the motor housing.

The Plunkett et al. patent does not refer to structure which included a rear motor casing, which is attached to an insulating ring, which in turn is attached to a pair of vertical metal brackets.

The Plunkett patent refers to an integral molded housing with the frame member connected to motor mounting member by strut members of plastic or metal. Metal is what applicant seeks to avoid as his structure is electrically insulated by use of the intermediate plastic ring between the motor casing and vertical metal brackets.

Plunkett just does not disclose applicants insulated structure.

The patent to Corcoran Jr. et al. discloses a drive-bay mounted cooling device, which includes a fan with a pair of spaced vertical fan prongs, which catch in holes in the case 16. In the Corcoran patent there aren't any spaced vertical mounting brackets comparable to applicants structure, no insulating ring or other similar structure.

The remaining patents are not discussed, as they were not relied upon in the claim rejection.




Claim 6 former Claims 1 and 2 combined and rewritten, calls for a box fan which includes an outer metal housing with a pair of spaced vertical metal brackets. The fan includes an electric motor with a front and rear casing, and an electrically insulating ring, which is connected to the rear motor casing and also to the brackets for mounting and electrically insulating the motor from the metal fan housing.

Such structure is just not found in any of the references either alone or in combination.

The remaining claims dependent on new Claim 6 with all its limitations also define structure not found in the references.

Accordingly, it is believed that the application is in condition for allowance, and such action is requested and urged.

Respectfully submitted,


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I claim:

6. ~~X~~ ^{IN COMBINATION WITH}

A box fan which includes a rectangular metal outer housing, at least one grill on said housing, a pair of spaced vertical metal brackets connected to said housing, ^{A FAN MOTOR HAVING A FRONT CASING} the improvement which comprises

[^] an electrically insulating ring, ~~connected to said metal brackets, and~~ ^{A WD A REAR CASING}

~~a fan motor connected to said insulating ring.~~

~~X~~ ~~A box fan as defined in claim 1 in which~~

~~said fan motor has a front casing and a rear casing,~~

said ring is connected to said fan motor rear casing by at least one screw, which passes through said ring into said rear casing, and

said ring is connected to said brackets by at least two screws, which pass through said brackets and are engaged in said ring.

3. A box fan as defined in claim ⁶~~1~~ in which said ring is of molded plastic.

4. A box fan as defined in claim ⁶~~1~~ in which said ring is of circular configuration.

5. A box fan as defined in claim ⁶~~1~~ in which said ring has rim means to direct cooling air to said fan motor to reduce its operating temperature.